

David Cameron
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London



19th September 2011

Dear Prime Minister

I thought that we should write following our meeting with you. I am sure that you will have read reports that our cases have been settled out of court.

What we wanted to make clear to you is that we could not have done this without a "no win no fee" agreement. At our first meeting with our lawyer we made it clear to him that we could not afford to pay. To be fair he had said that he would represent us even if there was no such thing as a CFA but there was and that is how he could act for us.

What helped was the fact that we would be insured if we lost a case and the premium for the insurance would be taken from the other side if we won. Without that we would not have been able to start a case or even threaten it.

We were lucky that we fell under that system. We understand that the new law will affect thousands of people who want to sue News International and other newspapers. We had understood that you were on the side of the people not the press. Please do not change the law so that the ability to sue the papers is lost. Although we may have received a sum that meant that the cost of the insurance would have been affordable, most cases finish with settlements that do not cover the cost of insurance and so people will not bother.

We are sure that you do not want to go down in history as the Prime Minister who took rights away from ordinary people so that large companies could print whatever they like and break the law without being able to challenge them.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sally, Bob and Gemma Dowler'.

Sally, Bob and Gemma Dowler

cc. Mr Nick Clegg
Deputy Prime minister